

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

DEC 12 2003

OFFICIAL

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

AMENDMENT/ RESPONSE	Application No.	10/044,018
	Filing Date	January 30, 2002
	First Named Inventor	Fumiteri Shingu
	Application Title:	Damper for Loudspeaker and Method for Manufacturing Same
	Group Art Unit	2643
	Examiner Name	Nguyen, Tuan Duc
	Attorney Docket No.:	Patm.43

Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop No Fee Amendment
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Sir:

The following remarks and amendments shown in the accompanying claim list are submitted in response to the Examiner's Action mailed September 16, 2003 in the above-identified application. Entry of the response into the application under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.115 is respectfully requested.

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION (37 C.F.R. 1.8a)

I hereby certify that these papers, along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed, are being sent via electronic facsimile transmission to Commissioner for Patents, Attn: Examiner Tuan Duc Nguyen, Art Unit 2643, facsimile telephone number, 1-703-872-9314.

By: 
Ingrid E. Crane

Date: December 12, 2003

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims. The provisional election of claims 1 and 2 is confirmed, and claims 3 and 4 are accordingly canceled. Claims 1 and 2 remain in the case, and this amendment adds new claims 5 and 6.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 1 and 2 as being obvious in view of Sakamoto et al. In particular, the statement in the official action that the tubular knitted tinsel cords

of claim 1 are shown in Sakamoto et al. is not supported by the disclosure of Sakamoto et al. All passages cited by the Examiner in the disclosure of Sakamoto et al. disclose "flat" knitted tinsel cords whereas claims 1 and 2 are directed to a device that includes tubular knitted tinsel cords. A key feature of Sakamoto et al. is that the flat knitted tinsel cords are "sewed" to damper raw material (col. 3, line 67; claim 2) and, therefore, Sakamoto et al. does not refer to any adhesive agent. Since, as has been disclosed in the introductory part of the specification of the present application, the object of the present invention is to solve problems involved in the conventional art of mounting the flat or tubular knitted tinsel cords to the damper body by means of the adhesive agent, it should be clear that Sakamoto et al. fails to disclose or suggest anything relevant to the present invention as claimed.

In view of the above mentioned object of the present invention, further, the present invention is primarily features not only the use of the tubular knitted tinsel cords but also the setting of the characteristics of the adhesive agent suitable for use with the tubular knitted tinsel cords. In this sense, the adhesive agent used in the present invention is the one "maintaining the viscoelasticity even after being dried" as clarified in claim 1 as amended, so that the adhesive agent does not disturb the operation of the damper but rather acts as a cushion for the tubular knitted tinsel cords, elevating the freedom of the damper operation (page 7, line 23 to page 8, line 6). In this respect, the invention of claim 1 should be deemed patentably distinct from any prior art including Sakamoto et al.

Regarding claim 2, it is believed not obvious to specify such various conditions of the tubular knitted tinsel cords as defined in claim 2 for yielding effective characteristics combined with the adhesive agent as defined in claim 1. Among the various conditions of claim 2, specifically, the weaving pitch of the tinsels at 20 ± 5 mm/turn indicates that the weaving pitch is made coarse, in contrast to the weaving pitch generally at 8.5 ± 0.26 mm/turn of ordinarily conventionally employed tubular knitted tinsel cords. Such coarse weaving pitch employed in the present invention is effective to properly improve the elasticity of the tubular knitted tinsel cords so as to be readily crushable, so that any damage of the tinsel cords incurred upon being bonded under a pressure to the adhesive agent of claim 1 as applied to one surface of the damper can be minimized, and the adhesion properties with respect to the corrugations of the damper material can be also improved so as not to impair inherent properties of the damper body (page 6, line 18 to page 7, line 1). Since Sakamoto et al. features the sewing of the flat knitted tinsel cords there is no disclosure or

suggestion at all of the coarse weaving of the present invention. Therefore, the invention as recited in claim 2 is patentably distinct from Sakamoto et al.

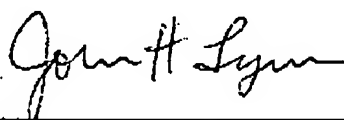
Claim 2 is also amended to recite "single woven thread" instead of "single or twin woven thread." New claim 5 is similar to claim 2 except for the recitation of twin woven threads instead of a single woven thread.

The damper for loudspeakers in the new claim 6 is characterized in that the damper has the tubular knitted tinsel cords bonded to the adhesive agent only under the pressure, without being heated, and such damper is not disclosed nor suggested in any prior art reference.

In fulfillment of the duty of information disclosure, applicant submits Japanese Patent Abstract No. 03269699 A German Patent DE69112329T2 (corres. to Sakamoto et al. USP 5191697), which was cited in a corresponding German application that has been allowed with the same claims 1-4 as those originally filed in the present case.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application should now be in condition for allowance. Therefore, applicants respectfully request a notice of allowance for the pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

Name	John H. Lynn				
Address	Suite C103 2915 Redhill Avenue				
City	Costa Mesa	State	CA	ZIP	92626
Country	USA	Telephone	714-641-4712	FAX	714-432-0722
Name	John H. Lynn		Registration No.:	29235	
Signature			Date	December 12, 2003	